18. Measuring the Size of a Dowsable Field

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Introduction to the Problem

Within practical reasonableness, measuring the size of a physical object usually produces the same result. It does not depend on who makes the measurement or when it is made. Unfortunately, this does not apply to dowsing. It has long been known that dowsers, when, for example, measuring earth energies, obtain different results for the same thing, at different times of the day or month. The Dowsing Research Group (DRG) has made a start in scientifically researching this phenomenon – a fundamental aspect of dowsing.

Reasons for Variability

The reasons for this variability include the 24-hour daily cycle; the 28-day lunar cycle; other planetary, solar, and cosmic influences; possible physiological effects, e.g. tiredness, illness, medicines, alcohol; and last but not least the personal interpretation of dowsing.

Qualifications

For readers believing the above is all negative, "personal interpretation" in the context of measurement, needs a brief explanation. Although two dowsers may obtain different values, they will generally observe similar phenomenon, obtain similar equations with identical exponents, and obtain the same ratios. In general, only the multiplying constants will differ.

Although some people dismiss the benefits of dowsing because of the perceived variability of results, in reality and if used effectively, this variability can be put to great benefit in researching how dowsing works. This article elaborates on this theme.

A Standard "Yardstick"

For the calibration of dowsing measurements, a standard "yardstick" was established, which involved dowsing 2-dimensional geometry. The chosen geometry comprised a 0.14-metre (about 5.5 inches) horizontal line, drawn on an A4 sheet of paper, fixed in a vertical plane, 1.22 metres (about 4 feet) above the ground. The validation of the technique was demonstrated, as all 13 members of the group dowsed the same phenomenon, the furthest point of which was a precise measureable boundary.

The advantages of this technique include an easy to produce standard, which provides precise measurements, and is easily repeatable. As the dowsing source is non-physical, as many variables as possible are eliminated, including matter and mass. This means that the emphasis is on consciousness and the mind - the main factors involved in dowsing research.

Protocol

As always, specifying the protocol and the actual dowsing question is key. To minimise errors only one person dowsed at a time. The intent of each dowser included the elimination of interactions from all other dowsers, as well as mentally erasing all previous dowsing results. Finally, intent had to be "now" to avoid time errors.

Results

The variation in measurement of the same length by each member of the group is summarised below in Figure 1. As is apparent, at any time of the day, there is about a ±30% variation of measured length between individuals.

It is interesting to note that the 0.14 m source line produces a dowsable field that is perceived to have a length that is almost 26 times greater.

As the measurements in Figure 1 were made the day after new moon, the results from previous work suggest that these dowsable lengths are significantly less than if the same measurements were taken at full moon.

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DRG Variation in the Measurement of a Standard Line

	8/3/08 12:30:00 metres	8/3/08 16:00:00 metres	8/3/08 21:00:00 metres	9/3/08 09:30:00 metres	9/3/08 13:00:00 metres	9/3/08 15:00:00 metres
DRG Member a	3.95	4.37	3.10	3.95	3.65	3.55
DRG Member b	3.75		2.11	3.80	3.16	4.30
DRG Member c	3.10	2.60	2.32	3.80	3.05	3.90
DRG Member d	3.98		2.35	3.87	3.73	
DRG Member e	2.50	3.60	3.40	3.83	3.45	3.40
DRG Member f	4.60	4.95	4.75	4.55	4.50	4.72
DRG Member g	3.80	3.67	3.30	2.90		3.00
DRG Member h	3.87	3.40	3.50	3.86	3.88	
DRG Member i	3.86	3.93	3.49	3.87	3.61	3.76
DRG Member j	3.50	3.80	4.30		3.85	4.40
DRG Member k	3.80	3.90			3.80	3.60
DRG Member l	2.60	2.60	2.50	2.90	2.65	2.60
DRG Member m		4.10	3.70	4.40		4.30
Average	3.61	3.72	3.24	3.79	3.58	3.78
Stnd Deviation	0.46	0.50	0.63	0.32	0.36	0.50

Figure 1

The variation in the average dowsed length over a 24-hour period is shown graphically in Figure 2. Although more data is required, it would appear that the dowsed length is a minimum at night, and reaches a maximum at about 9:30 a.m. There is then a dip at about 12:30 – 1:00 p.m., but reaching another maximum at about 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

It is of interest to note that the average of all the data in Figure 1 is a distance of 3.62 metres from the A4 sheet of paper with the source line, and this occurred at about noon.

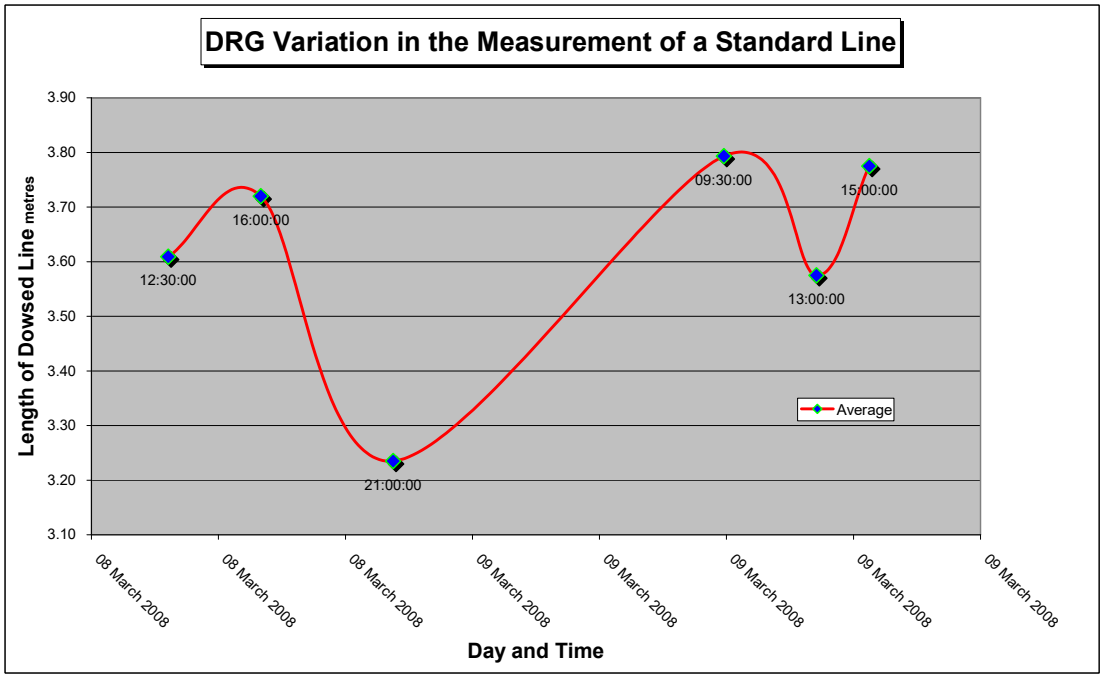

Figure 2

Subsequent Additional Experiments

Re-visiting the above Protocol and Standard Yardstick, and subsequent investigation, reveals what is being dowsed is a horizontal line. This dowsed line has the same height as the original source line (which was 1.22 metres high), and emanates at right angles from the centre of the original source line. A simple way to demonstrate this is to place a vertical sheet of blank paper parallel to and about 1 metre from the A4 sheet on which the original physical line was drawn. Where the dowsed line passes through the blank sheet of paper, its cross-section and height can be marked. By moving the blank sheet of paper away from the original A4 source, it can be shown that a line having a rectangular cross-section of approximately ¼ inch by ¼ inch is being dowsed. This line has a perceived outward energy flow and, as usual, terminates in a spiral. The length of this dowsed line is the measurement from the source to the centre of this spiral. The intent of dowsers measuring length, automatically transfers this line to the tape measure resting on the ground: a common occurrence when measuring earth energies.

The above experiment was repeated by replacing the 0.14 metre source line by a line of only 0.005 metres. Exactly the same results were found including the identical length and cross section of the dowsable field. The intriguing conclusion is that when dowsing a 1-dimensional line (drawn on a 2 dimensional sheet of paper) its physical length is irrelevant. Taking this concept to its logical limit leads to the obvious question - does dowsing a dot produce the same results as dowsing a line? Preliminary results suggest that this is the case. This places a challenging interpretation on the theory of what dowsers are actually perceiving.

Future Associated Research Work

Theoretically, it would seem easy to determine if Figure 2 were an effect of tides, or changes in, say, dowsers' hormone levels throughout the day. If the latter, the overall pattern would remain essentially the same on different days. If the cause of Figure 2

was lunar gravity and tides, the maxima and minima will gradually advance each day by about one hour. If neither of these results are apparent, additional physiological factors must be responsible. Either result would have a fundamental effect on understanding how dowsing works.

Also of fundamental interest is an explanation as to why a 0.14 m physical source line or just a dot produces a dowsable field that has an average length of 3.62 metres. An equally important philosophical query is whether the 3.62 metre line is physically in the room (where it is perceived adjacent to the tape measure being used), or is only in the mind of the dowser. The writer believes the latter is true, and forms part of the explanation of the variations demonstrated in this article.

Readers are invited to copy the above protocol and "yardstick" and see what dowsable effect they obtain, including measuring its length. The DRG would be interested in receiving feedback on the geometry of the perceived dowsable field, and its length at a specified date and time, preferably at or very near a new moon.

As is apparent there is much more in the DRG pipeline.

Apr 2008